

played by the torso piece 2 and the head piece 1, the magnitude of the torso-wedge angle 200 is not as important as that of the head-wedge angle 100. It simply has to be small enough so that the torso piece 2 can fit comfortably under one edge of the torso 303, but not so small that it fails to constrain the torso 303 from rolling so as to increase the head-turn angle of the sleeper 300.

[25] Fig. 3 shows the sleeper 300 with the head 302 turned in a particular direction with respect to the torso 303. However, the user of the Preferred Embodiment of the invention is not limited to one direction or the other. By flipping the assembly consisting of the torso piece 2 and the head piece 1 about a longitudinal axis 1000, the invention which had supported the head 302 turned to one side will equally well support it when it is turned to the other side.

[26] Also consistent with the Preferred Embodiment is a set of pieces similar in shape to the head piece 1 differing only in the head-wedge angle 100. This would allow the invention to protect, seriatim, a number of persons who prefer to sleep in the prone position, but have varying threshold head-turn angles.

[27] In general, there are many other variations on the Preferred Embodiment and indeed other embodiments entirely of the invention herein described. The detailed description of the Preferred Embodiment is provided for illustrative purposes only and is not meant to imply any limitations on the scope of the present invention.

#### IN THE CLAIMS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c), please enter the amendments indicated by canceling pending Claim 1 and entering all of the claims designated "original."

[[1. (previously presented)What I claim as my invention is a specifically designed pillow that while sleeping in the prone position will provide greater comfort and rest by

reducing the overall rotation in the neck and thereby reducing the overall stress to the entire spine. ]]

2. (original)            A device for reducing the vertebral stress on a person sleeping prone on a sleep surface without requiring the face of the person to be directed toward the sleep surface, said device comprising a head piece and a plurality of other elements, wherein said head piece and said plurality of other elements are deployable on said sleep surface so that when said person lies prone on said sleep surface, a cheek of said person is supported by said head piece, wherein said head piece has a head-piece shape that results in said cheek forming a particular cheek angle with said surface, wherein said head-piece shape is chosen so as to ensure that said cheek angle is large enough that any amount of said stress that occurs is minimal but without said cheek angle being so large that said face is directed downward.

3. (original)            The device of Claim 2, wherein said head piece presents a wedge shape to said cheek when said head piece supports said cheek of said person, and wherein said wedge shape is characterized by a head-piece thickness increasing from a head-piece thin edge to a head-piece thick end with a rate of increase determined by a head-wedge angle.

4. (original)    The device of Claim 3, wherein with said head piece is place and said person lying on said surface, said cheek is in contact with an upper surface of said head piece and said person is facing said head-piece thin edge.

5. (original)            The device of Claim 4 wherein said plurality of other elements includes a torso piece, wherein said torso piece is deployable between said surface and a torso of said person in such manner as to prevent said torso from rolling in a head-turn-increasing angle.

6. (original)            The device of Claim 5 wherein said torso piece is wedge shaped and said torso piece has a torso-piece thickness such that said torso-piece thickness increases from a torso-piece thin edge to torso-piece thick edge.
7. (original)            The device of Claim 5, wherein when said device is deployed with said person said torso-piece thin end is fitted under one edge of said torso and wherein said torso-piece thickness increases in a distal direction from said edge of said torso.
8. (original)            The device of Claim 7 wherein when said device is deployed on a bed having a longitudinal axis and said person is sleeping parallel to said longitudinal axis, said head-piece thickness increases in a first transverse direction with respect to said longitudinal axis and said torso-piece thickness increases in a second transverse direction with respect to said longitudinal direction, wherein first transverse direction is opposite to second transverse direction.
9. (original)    The device of Claim 2, wherein said head piece is comprised of a head block , a head-block cover fitted tightly over said head block, and a head pillow enveloping said head block and said head-block cover, and wherein said head block is wedge-shaped with a varying thickness defined by a head-piece angle.
10. (original)    The device of Claim 9, wherein said head block is made of a hard material, said head-block cover is made of a thin soft material, and said head pillow is soft and sufficiently compressible that head-wedge angle determines said cheek angle of said person lying prone on said sleep surface.
11. (original)    The device of Claim 5 wherein said torso piece is comprised of a torso block made of a non-yielding material, a torso-block cover fitted tightly over said torso block, and a torso pillow enveloping said torso block and said torso-block cover, and